

## Kriegsscene aus dem Kampse in Rordamerika.

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Lincoln and the Germans

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Many nineteenth century native-born Americans expressed hostility toward foreigners, including Germans, but Lincoln was much more tolerant. In the 1850s an entire political party, the "Know-Nothings" was based on opposition to foreigners, especially Roman Catholics. Condemning the Know-Nothing party, Lincoln asked in 1855 (August 24), "How can any one who abhors the oppression of negroes, be in favor of degrading classes of white people? ...As a nation, we began by declaring that 'all men are created equal."

Lincoln recognized the political importance of German-Americans, and in 1859 he purchased a German-language newspaper, giving the editor complete control as long as he continued to support the Republican party. When Lincoln was made a presidential candidate in 1860 he relied on German-American supporters like Carl Schurz to attract German votes, and after the election, he repaid his German supporters with patronage jobs such as Schurz's appointment as minister to Spain. Lincoln also recognized the contributions of German-Americans to the war effort. For example, Francis Lieber's work on military law was the basis of the Union army's General Order No. 100. Although all German-Americans were not Republicans, most lived in the North, and about 100,000 served in the Union army. Lincoln followed the careers of several German officers, and he described the German soldiers as "true and patriotic."

#### CARL SCHURZ (1829-1906)

Born in Prussia, Schurz was caught up in the revolutions of 1848 as a university student. He escaped to France in 1849, but was made a hero when he returned to rescue one of his old professors who had been imprisoned for his political views.

In 1852 Schurz arrived in the United States, and he quickly devoted himself to abolitionism and later the Republican Party with the same enthusiasm he had given the revolution.

In 1856 he campaigned (in German) for John C. Frémont, who was later quite popular among Germans. In 1860 he promised to "do the work of a hundred men for Abr. Lincolns election." He organized German, Dutch and Norwegian speakers, and made numerous speeches himself (in German and English), including many in Indiana. About this time Lincoln commented to Schurz, "To the extent of our limited acquaintance no man stands nearer my heart than yourself."

After the election, Lincoln expressed his gratitude by making Schurz minister to Spain. When Schurz resigned that post, Lincoln appointed him brigadier general under Frémont.

Schurz campaigned vigorously for Lincoln again in 1864, and he continued to be active in liberal Republicanism throughout his life.

Cover: "Battle Scene of the Struggle in North America." Lithograph by G. N. Renner & Co., Nürnberg.
Lithography (printing from a smooth stone surface) was invented by a German, and German-americans dominated the field in the United States.

# FRANCIS LIEBER (1800-1872)

A political scientist and educator, Lieber was born in Berlin, Germany, Possessing a romantic background, he fought at Waterloo, participated in the Turner movement and, after receiving his Ph.D in 1820, sailed off to Greece to fight for liberty. He later lived as a protégé to the great historian Barthold Niebuhr in Rome.

In 1827, Lieber arrived in Boston and furthered his literary career, hitting upon a plan for an encyclopedia which became the *Encyclopaedia Americana* (1829-33). Assuming the chair of History and Political Economy at South Carolina College in 1835, he began to write the works for which he is best known: his *Manual of Political Ethics* (1839) and *On Civil Liberty and Self-Government* (1853). In his works, Lieber attempted to create a theory of the State and to define the relationship between liberty and government.

While in South Carolina, Lieber was viewed with suspicion because of his sympathy for abolitionists, though he owned slaves while in the state. In 1857, he went to Columbia University in New York, where he remained for the rest of his life. After the outbreak of the Civil War, Lieber was much consulted by the Union government. He wrote Guerilla Parties Considered with Reference to the Laws and Usages of War (1862), and A Code for the Government of Armies (1863), revised by the War Department as Instructions for the Government Armies in the Field, General Orders No. 100, which was accepted as standard by writers on military law through World War II.

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